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MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE,
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GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

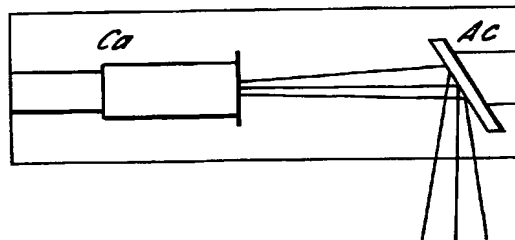
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27 November 2003For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: X-RAY DIFFRACTION METHOD

(57) Abstract: An X-ray diffraction method for the analysis of polycrystalline materials, the method comprising: (a) providing a polycrystalline material for analysis; (b) providing a polychromatic X-ray source, wherein the source produces X-rays by accelerating charged particles to energies of no more than 1 MeV; (c) collimating X-rays from the polychromatic X-ray source into a beam having a divergence in the range of from 10^{-4} to 10^{-2} radians; (d) exposing at least a portion of the polycrystalline material to the collimated X-ray beam, whereby the beam is diffracted; (e) collecting at least some of the diffracted X-rays in an energy dispersive X-ray detector or array; and (f) analysing the collected, diffracted X-rays.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Application No
PCT/GB 03/00283A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01N23/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 072 853 A (HALL CHRISTOPHER) 6 June 2000 (2000-06-06) abstract column 5, line 16 -column 6, line 40; figure 1	1-23
A	US 5 265 144 A (HARDING GEOFFREY DR ET AL) 23 November 1993 (1993-11-23) abstract column 3, line 10 -column 4, line 26; figure 1	1-23
A	US 5 787 145 A (GEUS GEORG) 28 July 1998 (1998-07-28) abstract column 4, line 1 -column 5, line 6; figures 1,2	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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			GB	2299251 A , B		25-09-1996
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